

**WISCONSIN**  
**HOME HEALTH AGENCIES AND PATIENTS**  
**1996**

April 1998

Center for Health Statistics  
Division of Health  
Department of Health and Family Services

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## Introduction

This report presents selected statistics on Wisconsin home health agencies and patients for 1996, as well as some trend information for 1991 through 1996. The source of data for this document is the Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, as reported by each agency. The survey is a cooperative effort between Wisconsin-licensed home health agencies, the Division of Health, Center for Health Statistics and Bureau of Health Care Financing, and the Division of Supportive Living, Bureau of Quality Assurance.

The 1996 survey population consisted only of the 193 home health agencies that applied for Wisconsin license renewal in 1997. Agencies that held probationary licenses in 1996 did not receive the survey form and are excluded from this report. Agencies that were certified to provide personal care only and certified independent nurses who provided private duty nursing and/or respiratory care services are also excluded. Therefore, the results of this report should not be construed as representative of the total home care industry.

The Center would like to acknowledge and thank the personnel of all licensed Wisconsin home health agencies who provided information on their agencies and the patients they serve.

Yiwu Zhang, lead analyst for the project, prepared the draft of this report. Jane Conner developed the tables and coordinated and implemented the data collection and editing activities. LuAnn Hahn and Kim Voss implemented survey follow-up and editing activities.

Suggestions, comments and requests for additional home health agency data may be addressed to:

Jane Conner  
Center for Health Statistics  
Division of Health  
Department of Health and Family Services  
P.O. Box 309  
Madison, WI 53701-0309  
Telephone: (608) 267-9055

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## Key Findings

- There were 193 home health agencies in Wisconsin that were included in the 1996 Wisconsin Home Health Survey, an increase of nine agencies from 1995. Of these 193 agencies, 82 were nonprofit (42 percent), 68 were proprietary (35 percent) and 43 were government-owned (22 percent).
- Wisconsin's home health agencies served more than 84,000 patients in 1996, an 8 percent increase over 1995. Reported home health visits statewide totaled nearly 4.3 million, a 2 percent decrease from 1995.
- The total number of full-time home health agency employees remained approximately the same between 1991 and 1996, even though the number of home health patients increased by 33 percent. The total number of part-time employees, however, increased by 14 percent during this period.
- From 1995 to 1996, the number of home health patients under age 55 increased by 32 percent. As a result, 27 percent of Wisconsin home health patients were younger than age 55 in 1996.
- Cardiovascular disease continued to be the most common illness among home health patients in 1996, accounting for 15 percent of all primary diagnoses. Eighty-nine percent of cardiovascular patients were age 65 and older.
- The Wisconsin home health agency utilization rate for 1996 was 16.3 patients per 1,000 population, compared to 15.2 patients per 1,000 in 1995 and 14.2 patients per 1,000 in 1994.
- In 1996, 41 percent of Wisconsin home health patients were females age 65 and older, while 24 percent of all patients were males in this age group. Home health utilization rates for all males and females statewide were 12.3 and 20.1 per 1,000 population, respectively.
- Total home health agency admissions increased by 44 percent and discharges by 50 percent between 1991 and 1996. The growth in admissions was mainly from hospitals, while the major growth in discharges was to private residences.
- From 1991 to 1996, the average length of a home health visit declined from 2.4 to 1.7 hours, while the average annual number of visits per patient increased from 47 to 51.
- Statewide, total self-reported home health agency expenses exceeded total self-reported revenues by \$7.2 million in 1996.
- From 1995 to 1996, home health agencies reported a 4 percent increase in the number of patients who used Medicare as a payment source and an 8 percent decrease in the number of patients who used Medicaid.

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## Overview of Tables and Figures

**Characteristics of Home Health Agencies.** The first section of this report provides general information on home health agencies in Wisconsin for 1996, as well as information on home health trends since 1991. Table 1 indicates the number of home health agencies, patients and visits statewide for each year since 1991. Table 2 provides information on the number of agencies certified for Medicare, Medicaid, Personal Care, and Hospice services from 1991 to 1996. Table 3 lists the number of full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) in 1996 by employee category. Figure 1 compares the total number of full-time registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), home health aides (HHAs) and personal care workers (PCWs) for each year from 1991 through 1996; Figure 2 compares the total number of part-time RNs, LPNs, HHAs and PCWs for each year during the same period.

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**Characteristics of Home Health Patients.** This section provides information on the age, sex and primary medical diagnoses for home health patients. Also included is information on the utilization of home health services statewide in 1996. Figure 3, which shows home health patients by age group, indicates that more than half of all patients were between the ages of 65 and 84. Figure 4 compares the number of home health patients under age 55 and age 85 and older from 1991 to 1996. Table 4 lists the percentage of patients for each primary medical diagnosis by age group in 1996. Cardiovascular disease and arthritis were the two most common diagnoses reported. Both Map 1 and Table 5 show 1996 home health utilization rates by county. Table 6 shows the number of patients and the utilization rate of home health services statewide for 1996 by age and sex. Table 7 lists the number of home health agencies and patients served within selected Wisconsin counties in 1996. Figures 5 and 6 show trends in home health admissions and discharges between 1991 and 1996. Both admissions from hospitals and discharges to private residences increased steadily during this time.

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**Home Health Agency Financial Information.** This section contains financial information as reported by home health agencies based on their 1996 fiscal data. Table 11 provides total dollar amounts for Medicare and Medicaid payments to home health agencies in 1996. Table 12 is included for comparative purposes, and shows actual Medicaid payments as reported by the Bureau of Health Care Financing for State Fiscal Year 1996 (July 1, 1995 – June 30, 1996). Table 13 provides 1996 statewide totals for gross patient revenue, deductions, net patient revenue, and total agency revenue by agency ownership. Figure 9 and Table 14 also categorize agencies by ownership type to compare net agency revenues statewide. Figure 10 shows the number and percentage of 1996 home health patients by payment sources, while Figures 11 and 12 show the number of home health patients using Medicare or Medicaid as a source of payment between 1991 and 1996

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## Characteristics of Home Health Patients

**Table 1. Number of Home Health Agencies, Patients and Visits by Ownership Type, 1991-1996**

<b>Number of Home Health Agencies</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>State Total</b>	<b>Ownership of Agency</b>		
		<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Proprietary</b>
1991	170	48	70	52
1992	183	47	80	56
1993	188	45	81	62
1994	192	45	81	66
1995	184	44	81	59
1996	193	43	82	68
<b>Number of Home Health Patients Served</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>State Total</b>	<b>Ownership of Agency</b>		
		<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Proprietary</b>
1991	63,145	11,670	37,121	14,354
1992	67,244	12,273	39,248	15,723
1993	65,402	11,148	39,448	14,802
1994	72,257	11,411	44,725	16,121
1995	77,783	10,716	51,126	15,941
1996	84,092	9,783	58,808	15,501
<b>Number of Home Health Visits</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>State Total</b>	<b>Ownership of Agency</b>		
		<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Proprietary</b>
1991	2,943,276	369,415	1,327,489	1,246,372
1992	3,387,113	421,843	1,669,609	1,295,661
1993	3,835,946	460,106	2,081,450	1,294,390
1994	4,158,770	479,790	2,257,297	1,421,683
1995	4,349,960	486,783	2,563,909	1,299,268
1996	4,269,921	461,461	2,572,592	1,235,868

Note: In 1996, 16 home health agencies were in operation for less than one year.

Home Health visits include the following: skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social services, home health aides, medicaid respiratory therapy, private duty nursing, other therapeutic home health care, personal care, personal care-RN supervisory, homemaker services and other non-therapeutic care.

- There were 193 home health agencies that applied for Wisconsin license renewal in 1997, an overall increase of nine agencies from the 184 that applied for license renewal in 1996. During 1996, three proprietary and five nonprofit agencies were closed, four nonprofit and 13 proprietary agencies were opened, one changed its ownership from governmental to nonprofit, and one changed its ownership from proprietary to nonprofit.
- The number of home health patients served by nonprofit agencies increased 15 percent from 1995 to 1996, while the number of patients served by governmental agencies declined by 9 percent.
- The number of proprietary agencies statewide increased by nine from 1995 to 1996, after a decline of seven between 1994 and 1995.
- While the number of home health patients statewide increased 8 percent from 1995 to 1996, the number of home health visits decreased by nearly 2 percent.

**Table 2. Number of Home Health Agencies Certified to Provide Medicare, Medicaid, Personal Care and Hospice Services, 1991-1996**

	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>
Total Number of Agencies	170	183	188	192	184	193
Medicare Certified	160	174	178	182	175	184
Medicaid Certified	160	172	181	182	175	184
Personal Care Certified	113	135	148	150	147	149
Hospice Certified	24	31	35	35	36	43

- Nearly 95 percent of all home health agencies were either Medicare or Medicaid certified, and over 90 percent were certified to provide services under both of these federal programs. This percentage has remained relatively constant since 1991.
- Between 1995 and 1996, the number of Wisconsin home health agencies certified to provide hospice services increased from 36 to 43 (19 percent). This is the largest one-year increase since 1991.

**Table 3. Full-Time Equivalent Employees (FTEs) of Home Health Agencies by Ownership Type (April 14–18, 1997)**

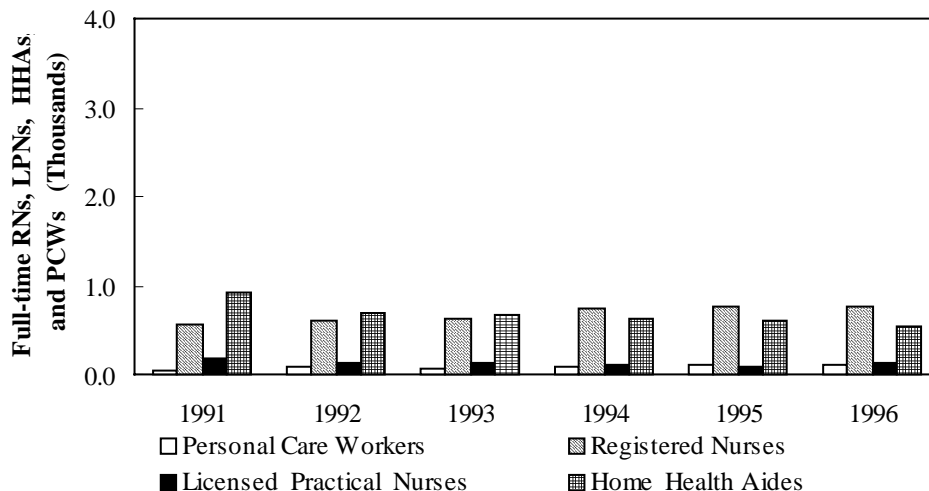
Employee Category	Statewide		Ownership of Agency		
	Number of FTEs	Percentage	Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Administrator	146		30	56	60
Sub. Administrator	75		7	34	33
RN Supervisor	249		29	123	97
Sub. RN Supervisor	41		0	29	12
<b>Subtotal</b>	510	8%	66	242	202
Registered Nurse	1,613		228	1,029	355
Licensed Practical Nurse	280		8	120	153
<b>Subtotal</b>	1,893	30%	236	1,149	508
Home Health Aide	1,807	28%	158	1,008	641
Physical Therapist	81		2	71	7
Occupational Therapist	36		0	32	4
Speech Pathologist	10		0	9	0
Respiratory Therapist	7		0	7	0
Medical Social Worker	64		1	60	3
<b>Subtotal</b>	197	3%	3	179	15
Personal Care Worker	653		32	134	487
Homemaker	310		9	188	113
Other	1,019		105	602	312
<b>Subtotal</b>	1,982	31%	146	924	912
<b>Total</b>	6,391	100%	610	3,503	2,278

Note: Number of FTEs within categories may not equal totals due to rounding.

- During the week of April 14 to April 18, 1997, there were 6,391 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) working in Wisconsin home health agencies. This total represented a 2 percent decrease from the total reported in 1996, even though the number of home health patients increased by 8 percent during this time.
- Most of the staffing decline took place in the category of “other” employees. While the numbers of home health aides and registered nurses did not change significantly between 1996 and 1997, the number of personal care workers increased by 28 percent.

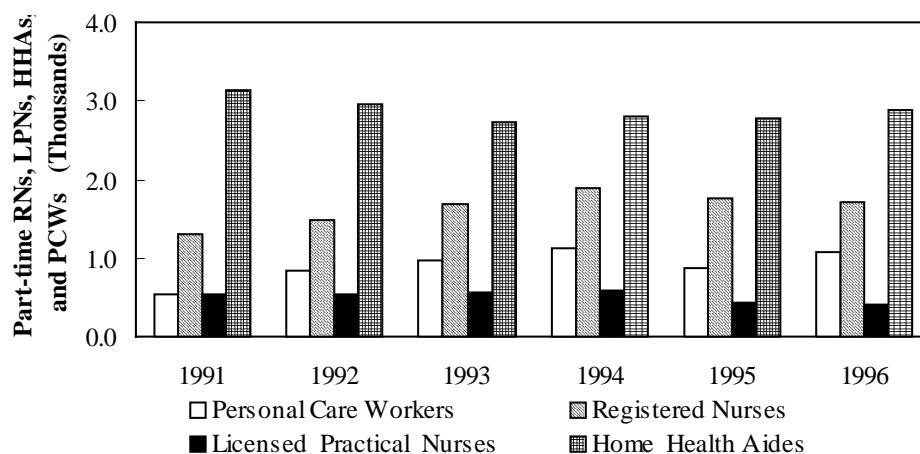


**Figure 1. Number of Full-Time Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Home Health Aides and Personal Care Workers, 1991-1996**



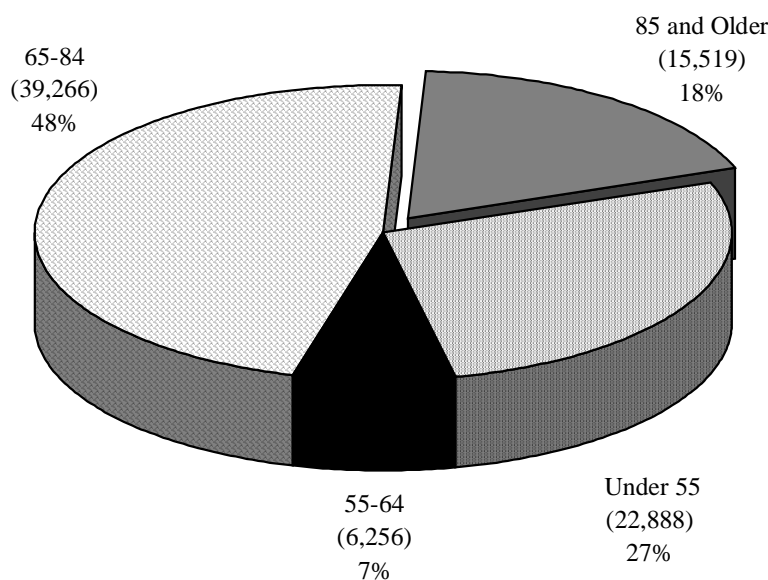
- Between 1991 and 1996, the total number of *full-time* employees of Wisconsin home health agencies remained approximately the same (about 2,800), even though the number of home health patients increased by 33 percent. During this six-year period, the number of full-time RNs increased from 563 to 770 (37 percent); the number of full-time LPNs decreased from 185 to 127 (31 percent); the number of full-time HHAs declined from 913 to 547 (40 percent); and the number of full-time PCWs increased from 49 to 117 (138 percent).

**Figure 2. Number of Part-Time Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Home Health Aides and Personal Care Workers, 1991-1996**



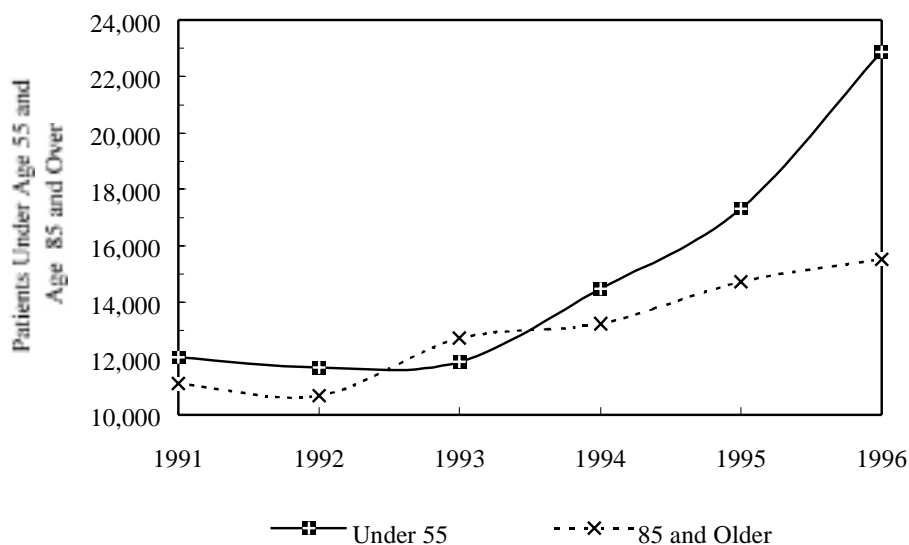
- Between 1991 and 1996, the total number of *part-time* employees employed by Wisconsin home health agencies increased by almost 14 percent, from 6,867 to 7,793. The number of part-time RNs increased by 31 percent (from 1,300 to 1,700), while the number of part-time LPNs and HHAs decreased by 23 percent and 8 percent, respectively. The number of part-time PCWs increased from 541 to 1,058 (96 percent).

**Figure 3. Home Health Patients and Percentage of Total by Age Group**



- Forty-eight percent of 1996 home health patients were age 65 to 84, compared to 51 percent in 1995. The proportion of patients who were under age 55 increased from 22 percent to 27 percent, while the proportion of patients who were age 55 to 64 and age 85 and older remained relatively stable.

**Figure 4. Number of Home Health Patients Under Age 55 and Age 85 and Older, 1991-1996**



- Patients under age 55 have been the fastest growing segment of the home health population in recent years. From 1995 to 1996, the number of patients in this age group increased by 32 percent. This one-year increase occurred after a 46 percent increase between 1993 and 1995.
- The number of patients age 85 and older increased by 5 percent from 1995 to 1996, after an 11 percent increase the previous year.

**Table 4. Primary Diagnosis/Problem of Unduplicated\* Home Health Patients by Age**

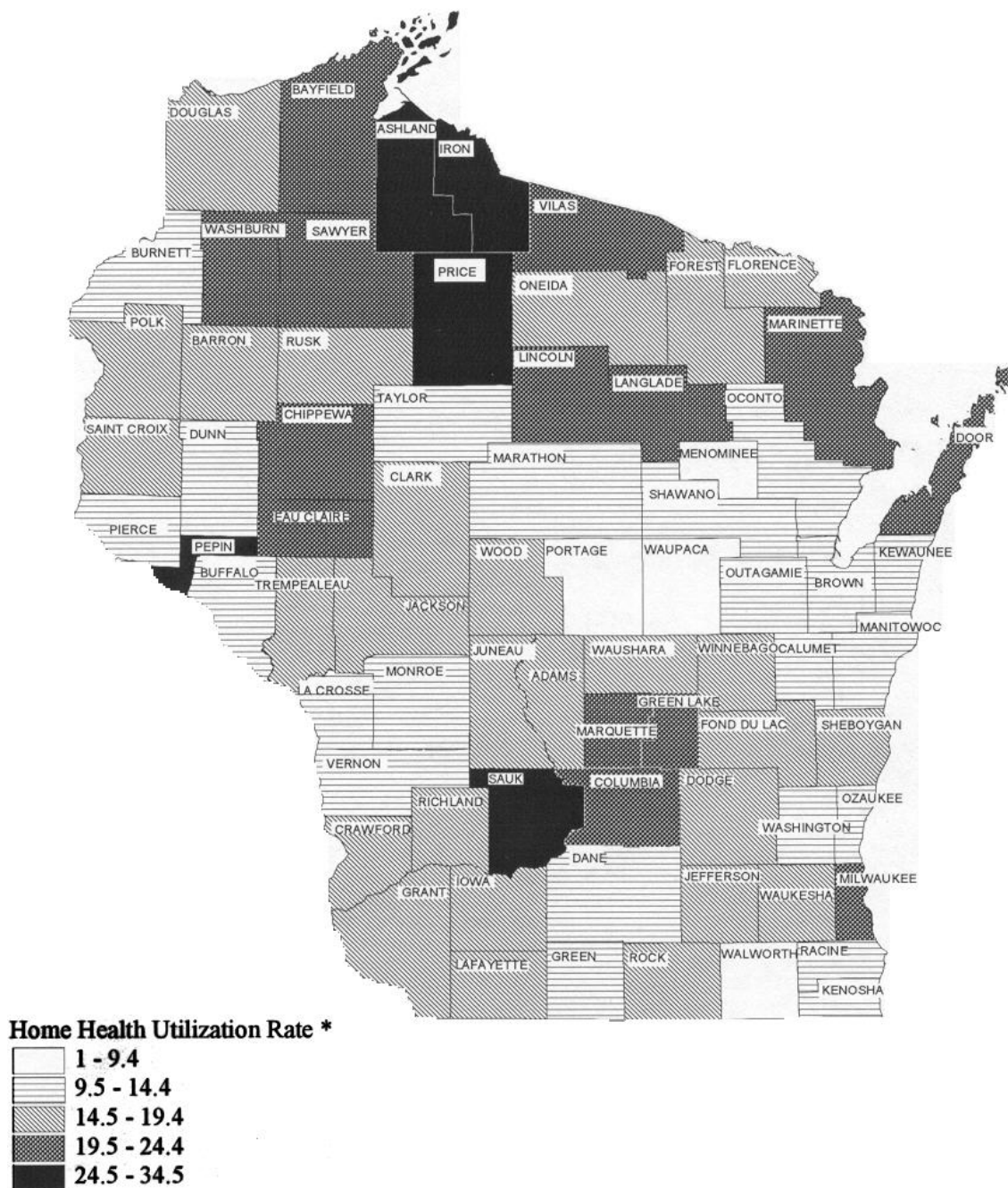
Primary Diagnosis	Number of Patients	Age					Percentage Age 65+
		<55 %	55-64 %	65-74 %	75-84 %	85+ %	
<b>Total</b>	84,092	27%	7%	18%	29%	18%	65%
Cardiovascular	12,939	5	6	22	39	28	89
Arthropathies, Dorsopathies & Rheumatism	6,190	7	8	26	37	22	85
Cancer	6,080	18	15	28	27	12	67
Respiratory	5,909	20	6	20	35	19	74
Fractures, Dislocations & Sprains	4,411	13	6	18	37	26	81
Ill-Defined Conditions	4,362	16	6	15	34	28	77
Diabetes	3,683	14	11	25	34	15	74
Wounds, Burns & Other Injuries	3,643	26	11	20	24	16	60
Stroke	2,954	5	7	24	42	22	88
Genitourinary System	2,320	16	8	19	34	22	75
Central Nervous System & Multiple Sclerosis	1,735	39	12	17	24	7	49
Pregnancy & Childbirth	1,634	100	0	0	0	0	0
Digestive Disorder	1,449	24	9	15	31	21	67
Complications of Surgery	1,392	30	12	19	23	17	58
Osteopathies	1,338	20	8	18	31	23	72
Blood Diseases	1,258	9	4	14	36	37	87
Paralysis & Cerebral Palsy	1,229	73	9	9	7	2	18
Other Infectious & Parasitic Diseases	1,212	34	10	16	20	17	54
Conditions Originating In the Perinatal Period	1,132	98	0	0	1	0	2
Psychoses & Neurotic Disorders	962	25	9	20	29	17	67
Congenital Anomalies	660	81	4	7	6	3	15
Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease	639	3	3	15	41	39	94
Mental Retardation	541	78	11	8	3	1	12
Dehydration	431	12	6	18	34	30	82
Eye & Ear Problems	342	23	6	13	31	27	71
HIV Positive	151	91	4	3	1	1	4
Poisoning & Toxic Effects	127	17	6	22	23	33	78
Other Conditions	15,369	58	5	10	16	11	37

\* Unduplicated patients are all patients on an agency's caseload beginning January 1, 1996, plus all unduplicated admissions (admissions minus readmissions) in 1996.

Note: Primary Diagnosis refers to grouped ICD-9 codes.

- Cardiovascular disease continued to be the most common illness among home health patients in 1996, accounting for 15 percent (12,939) of the total number of patients. Eighty-nine percent of these patients were age 65 and older.
- Arthritis (Arthropathies, Dorsopathies & Rheumatism), which is common among the elderly, replaced cancer as the second most common primary diagnosis in 1996, accounting for over 7 percent (6,190) of all home health patients.

**Map 1. Home Health Utilization Rate by County of Residence, Wisconsin 1996**



\* Number of home health patients per 1,000 estimated county population for 1996.

Wisconsin Division Of Health  
Center for Health Statistics

**Table 5. Home Health Utilization Rate by County of Residence**

County Of Residence	Estimated Patients	Utilization Population	Rate	County of Residence	Estimated Patients	Utilization Population	Rate
<b>State Total</b>	84,092	5,161,917	16.3	Marathon	1,776	123,179	14.4
Adams	316	17,458	18.1	Marinette	844	42,229	20.0
Ashland	452	16,616	27.2	Marquette	283	13,709	20.6
Barron	824	42,776	19.3	Menominee	8	4,371	1.8
Bayfield	311	14,644	21.2	Milwaukee	21,039	949,442	22.2
Brown	2,394	213,934	11.2	Monroe	523	38,415	13.6
Buffalo	188	13,877	13.6	Oconto	456	32,437	14.1
Burnett	153	13,968	11.0	Oneida	527	34,472	15.3
Calumet	530	37,758	14.0	Outagamie	1,814	152,885	11.9
Chippewa	1,275	54,317	23.5	Ozaukee	827	79,055	10.5
Clark	550	32,359	17.0	Pepin	191	7,157	26.7
Columbia	985	48,753	20.2	Pierce	374	34,221	10.9
Crawford	290	16,166	17.9	Polk	620	36,906	16.8
Dane	5,454	397,985	13.7	Portage	435	65,891	6.6
Dodge	1,473	81,688	18.0	Price	447	16,024	27.9
Door	643	26,482	24.3	Racine	2,170	185,199	11.7
Douglas	790	42,479	18.6	Richland	262	17,725	14.8
Dunn	513	37,844	13.6	Rock	2,233	148,922	15.0
Eau Claire	1,749	89,025	19.7	Rusk	238	15,287	15.6
Florence	78	4,991	15.6	St. Croix	847	55,138	15.4
Fond du Lac	1,674	94,830	17.7	Sauk	1,274	51,608	24.7
Forest	161	9,129	17.6	Sawyer	300	15,421	19.5
Grant	889	49,534	18.0	Shawano	387	38,447	10.1
Green	410	31,908	12.9	Sheboygan	1,949	109,655	17.8
Green Lake	439	19,210	22.9	Taylor	263	19,262	13.7
Iowa	350	21,590	16.2	Trempealeau	399	26,083	15.3
Iron	216	6,320	34.2	Vernon	300	26,546	11.3
Jackson	318	17,193	18.5	Vilas	389	19,535	19.9
Jefferson	1,112	72,493	15.3	Walworth	597	82,211	7.3
Juneau	434	23,300	18.6	Washburn	320	14,703	21.8
Kenosha	1,877	139,605	13.5	Washington	1,102	110,040	10.0
Kewaunee	278	19,572	14.2	Waukesha	5,548	338,817	16.4
La Crosse	1,120	103,249	10.9	Waupaca	454	49,265	9.2
Lafayette	236	16,220	14.6	Waushara	398	20,684	19.2
Langlade	408	20,451	20.0	Winnebago	2,206	150,473	14.7
Lincoln	637	28,805	22.1	Wood	1,231	76,638	16.1
Manitowoc	1,062	83,336	12.7				

Note: Home health patients may receive services from agencies located outside their county of residence.

- The utilization rate of home health services statewide was 16.3 patients per 1,000 population in 1996, compared to 15.2 patients per 1,000 in 1995 and 14.2 per 1,000 in 1994.
- For every 1,000 people in Iron County, 34 used home health services in 1996, the highest utilization rate in the state. Three other counties, Price, Ashland and Pepin, had utilization rates of over 25 per 1,000 county population.
- Among counties with a population of 100,000 or more, Milwaukee had the highest utilization rate, with slightly more than 22 patients per 1,000 county population.

**Table 6. Number, Percent and Utilization Rate of Home Health Patients by Age and Sex**

Age	Total			Female			Male		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
<b>All Patients</b>	84,092	100%	16.3	52,665	100%	20.1	31,427	100%	12.3
Under 55	22,888	27	5.6	14,485	28	7.2	8,392	27	4.1
55-64	6,256	7	15.0	3,519	7	16.5	2,733	9	13.4
65-74	15,228	18	42.2	8,945	17	45.7	6,281	20	38.0
75-84	24,038	29	101.0	15,116	29	104.7	8,920	28	95.3
85 or older	15,519	18	178.4	10,534	20	168.7	4,982	16	202.6
65 or older	54,785	65	79.9	34,595	66	86.0	20,183	64	71.2

Notes: The utilization rate is the number of patients per 1,000 population in each age group, based on 1996 population estimates by the Wisconsin Center for Health Statistics.  
Numbers do not add to totals shown because two agencies were unable to provide proper breakdowns.

- In 1996, 63 percent of all Wisconsin home health patients were female and 37 percent were male. Forty-one percent of total patients were females age 65 and older.
- The statewide home health utilization rate for females (20.1 per 1,000 population) was higher than the utilization rate for males (12.3 per 1,000).
- Females age 65 and older had a higher utilization rate (86.0 per 1,000 population) than males in that age group (71.2 per 1,000 population).
- Among males age 85 and older in Wisconsin, 202.6 out of every thousand used home health services in 1996. In comparison, females age 85 and older used home health services at a rate of 168.7 per 1,000.

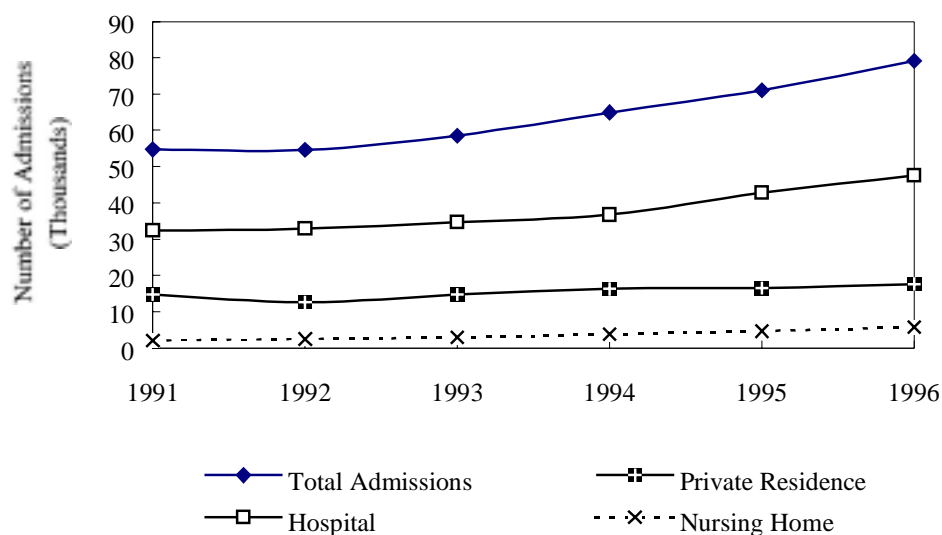
**Table 7. Number of Home Health Agencies and Patients in Selected Wisconsin Counties**

County of Agency	Number of:		Percentage of Total Patients (Rounded)
	Agencies	Patients	
<b>State Total</b>	193	84,092	100%
Milwaukee	28	24,907	30
Waukesha	10	6,502	8
Sauk	3	4,017	5
Dane	8	3,219	4
Winnebago	7	3,081	4
Rock	5	2,529	3
Brown	6	2,172	3
Sheboygan	2	2,163	3
Marathon	3	2,087	3
Chippewa	2	2,053	2
La Crosse	3	1,904	2
Wood	3	1,853	2
Dodge	4	1,665	2
Fond du Lac	2	1,560	2
Kenosha	3	1,477	2
Racine	3	1,494	2
Eau Claire	4	1,396	2
Outagamie	2	1,150	1
Oneida	2	985	1
Barron	2	812	1

Note: Counties whose home health agencies served less than 1 percent of total Wisconsin home health patients were excluded from this table.

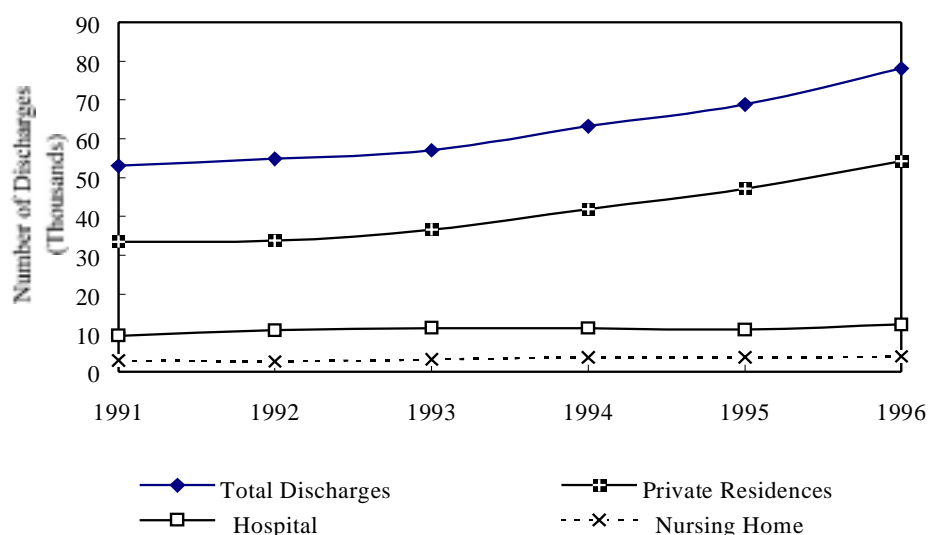
- Nearly 53 percent of all home health patients statewide were served in six counties (Milwaukee, Waukesha, Sauk, Dane, Winnebago and Rock) in 1996.
- The 38 home health agencies in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties jointly served 37 percent of the state's home health patients.
- Twenty-nine agencies in five other counties (Sauk, Dane, Winnebago, Rock, and Brown) served 18 percent of total patients.

**Figure 5. Number of Admissions from Private Residences, Hospitals, and Nursing Homes: 1991-1996**



- Between 1991 and 1996, the total number of admissions to home health agencies increased 44 percent, from 54,700 to just over 79,000. The majority of this growth (63 percent) was due to an increase in admissions from hospitals.

**Figure 6. Number of Discharges to Private Residences, Hospitals, and Nursing Homes: 1991-1996**



- From 1991 to 1996, the total number of discharges from home health agencies increased by 50 percent (from 52,000 to 78,000). Nearly 80 percent of this growth was due to increases in the number of discharges to private residences.



**Table 8. Types of Services Provided to Home Health Patients**

Therapeutic Service	Statewide Total		Ownership of Agency		
	Number	Percent	Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
<b>Duplicated Patients*</b>	149,579	100%	18,520	104,769	26,290
Skilled Nursing	73,271	49	49%	50%	46%
Home Health Aide Services	27,040	18	23	17	17
Physical Therapy	17,858	12	9	13	11
Speech Pathology	1,455	1	1	1	1
Occupational Therapy	5,697	4	2	4	4
Medical Social Service	6,780	5	1	6	2
Respiratory Therapy	14	<1	0	<1	<1
Private Duty Nursing	822	1	0	1	1
Other Home Health Care	425	<1	0	<1	<1
Personal Care Service	6,846	5	7	3	8
Personal Care RN Supervisory	5,875	4	7	3	7
Homemaker Service	3,042	2	1	2	3
Other Non-Therapeutic Care	454	<1	0	<1	<1

\* Patients were counted each time they received a different type of therapeutic service during the year.

- Of nearly 149,600 duplicated home health patients statewide in 1996, 49 percent required skilled nursing services.
- Patients using home health aide and physical therapy services accounted for 18 percent and 12 percent, respectively, of total patients who received therapeutic services in 1996.

**Table 9. Number of Home Health Agencies Providing Other Home-Based Services, 1994-1996**

Agencies Providing Other Home-Based Services	1994		1995		1996	
	Number of Agencies	Percent	Number of Agencies	Percent	Number of Agencies	Percent
<b>Total Number of Home Health Agencies</b>	192	100%	184	100%	193	100%
Meals on Wheels	6	3	4	2	5	3
Elderly Housing Units/Adult Day Centers	96	50	93	51	139	72
Medical Equipment Loans	35	18	36	20	32	17
Personal Emergency Response	34	18	20	11	28	15
New Baby Checks/Well-Child Services	50	26	49	27	*	*
Share Cases with Other Agencies	121	63	100	54	92	48

\* Not a survey category in 1996.

- Seventy-two percent of home health agencies in Wisconsin provided either elderly housing units or adult day centers in 1996, compared to 51 percent in 1995. In contrast, the percentage of agencies that shared cases with other agencies has steadily declined.

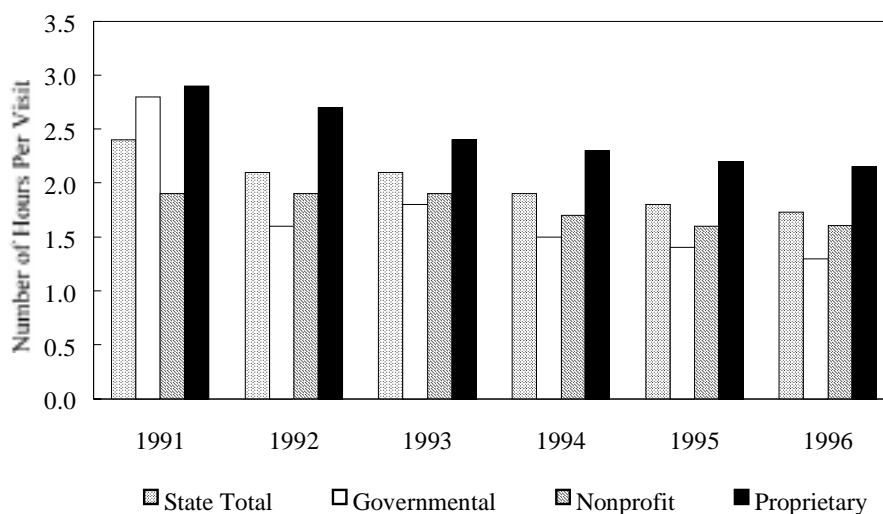
**Table 10. Home Health Services on a Typical Day: April 14, 1997**

	<b>Patients</b>	<b>Percent of Patients on this Day</b>
<b>SENSORY DIFFICULTIES</b>		
Impaired Hearing	3,000	27%
Impaired Vision	3,675	33
<b>PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS</b>		
Attempted Suicide	14	<1
Verbally Abusive	254	2
Physically Aggressive	211	2
Impaired Memory	2,366	21
Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse	169	2
<b>THERAPIES</b>		
Psychiatric Therapy	132	1
Occupational Therapy	398	4
Physical Therapy	1,132	10
Speech Therapy	155	1
Medical Social Services	421	4
<b>REQUIRES HELP IN ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING (ADLs)</b>		
1 - 3 ADLs	4,696	42
4 - 6 ADLs	4,779	43
<b>NURSING ACTIONS</b>		
Tracheotomy	134	1
Non-Routine Skin Care	1,666	15
Specialized Nursing	288	3
Ostomy Care	162	1
Respiratory Care	198	2
Tube Feeding	308	3
Appliances	656	6
Pharmaceutical Administration	1,010	9
IV Administration	234	2
Medication Setup	1,871	17
<b>OTHER NURSING ACTIONS</b>	<b>3,059</b>	<b>27</b>

Notes: The percentages shown in this table are based on a reported total of 11,215 patients. This total is a duplicated count, which means that a patient may have received several types of services on that day, and was thus counted more than once.  
Activities of daily living include: dressing/undressing, ambulating, eating, grooming and bathing, toileting, and transferring.

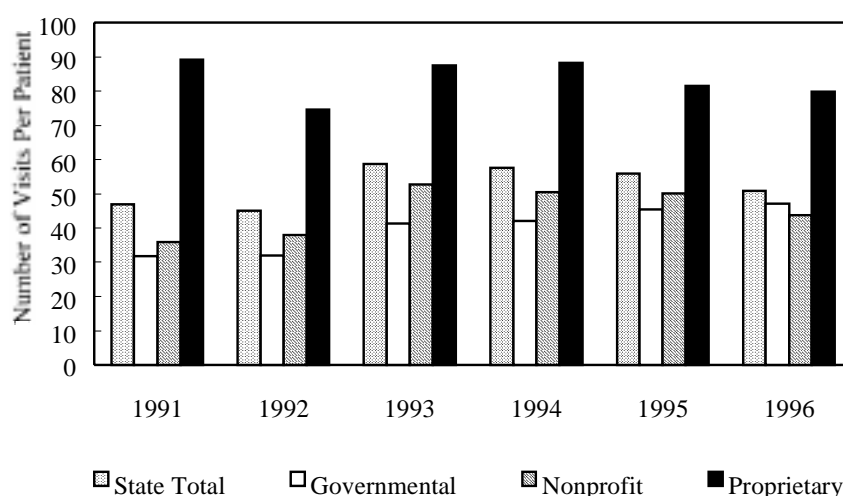
- Forty-two percent of all home health patients seen on this “typical” day required help in one to three of the six activities of daily living (ADLs), while 43 percent of patients seen on that day required help in four or more ADLs.
- Thirty-three percent of patients seen on this day had impaired vision and 27 percent suffered impaired hearing.

**Figure 7. Average Number of Hours per Home Health Visit, 1991-1996**



- The average length of a home health visit statewide in 1996 was 1.7 hours. This average has declined steadily since 1991.
- Proprietary agencies reported the highest average length of visit for all years shown.

**Figure 8. Average Number of Visits per Home Health Patient, 1991-1996**



- Statewide, home health agencies reported an average of 51 visits per patient in 1996.
- Proprietary agencies reported an average of 80 visits per patient in 1996, and have consistently reported by far the highest average number of patient visits.

**Table 11. Self-Reported Medicare and Medicaid Payments to Home Health Agencies by Agency Ownership**

Payment Source	State Total	Ownership of Agency		
		Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Medicare	\$132,046,460	\$17,232,221	\$91,896,314	\$22,917,925
Medicaid	\$55,520,513	\$3,477,007	\$22,395,814	\$29,647,692

Notes: The dollar amounts shown in this table were unaudited at the time they were reported on the Annual Home Health Survey. The Medicaid payments reported by home health agencies will differ from those reported for Fiscal Year 1996 by the Bureau of Health Care Financing (see Table 12) for the following reasons:

- 1) The extent to which home health agencies include/exclude payments for Medicaid personal care services may differ from agency to agency and year to year.
- 2) While the survey directs agencies to report based on their most recently completed fiscal year, the Bureau of Health Care Financing reports payments based on the State's fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).
- 3) The number of home health agencies included in the payment amount varied (i.e., as many as eight agencies which did not apply for a 1997 Wisconsin home health license were excluded from the 1996 Home Health Survey).
- 4) One home health agency did not report information on deductions from revenue for 1996.

- In 1996, Medicare payments to home health agencies statewide totaled \$132.0 million, an increase of nearly 3 percent (\$3.4 million) from 1995. During this time, Medicaid payments decreased by almost 7 percent (\$3.9 million), to a total of \$55.5 million.

**Table 12. Medicaid Paid Claims Data As Reported by the Wisconsin Bureau of Health Care Financing**

State Fiscal Year (SFY)	Home Health Agencies	Other Home Care Providers	Home Care Industry Total
1996	\$60,969,133	\$28,673,321	\$89,642,454

Note: Dollar amounts shown in this table include all Medicaid payments to Wisconsin home care providers for SFY 1996. The amounts reported in the "Home Health Agencies" category include payments to agencies providing home health services only, as well as to agencies which were dually-certified to provide home health and personal care services. The "Other Home Care Providers" category includes amounts paid to agencies which were certified to provide personal care only, and to certified independent nurses providing private duty nursing services and/or respiratory care services.

- In 1996, total Medicaid payments to the state's home care industry, as reported by the Wisconsin Bureau of Health Care Financing, were about \$1 million (1 percent) less than in 1995.
- From 1995 to 1996, total Medicaid payments to home health agencies decreased by more than \$6 million (9 percent), while total Medicaid payments to other home care providers increased by more than \$5 million (21 percent).

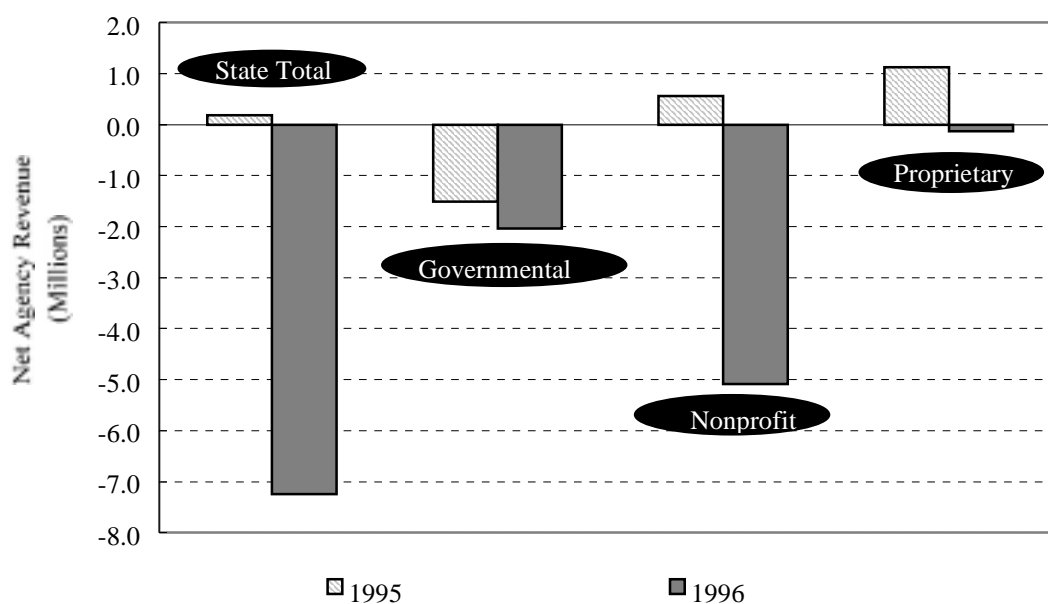
## Financial Information

**Table 13. Home Health Agency Revenue by Ownership of Agency**

	State Total		Ownership of Agency					
			Governmental		Nonprofit		Proprietary	
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
<b>Gross Patient Revenue</b>								
Medicare	\$156,159,154	56%	\$18,654,044	71%	\$109,716,180	65%	\$27,788,930	33%
Medicaid	\$73,873,179	27	\$4,847,289	18	\$31,344,726	19	\$37,681,164	45
Federal Government	\$799,454	<1	\$214,018	1	\$548,725	<1	\$36,711	<1
State Government	\$5,977,169	2	\$286,286	1	\$4,255,906	3	\$1,434,97	2
Other Government	\$2,164,921	1	\$213,491	1	\$1,180,961	1	\$770,46	1
Third Party	\$24,626,664	9	\$1,281,698	5	\$13,672,459	8	\$9,672,50	12
Self Pay	\$12,841,291	5	\$761,333	3	\$5,979,913	4	\$6,100,04	7
Other Sources of Revenue	\$1,673,856	1	\$8,263	<1	\$1,134,345	1	\$531,24	1
<b>Reported Gross Patient Revenue</b>	\$278,115,688	100%	\$26,266,422	100%	\$167,833,215	100%	\$84,016,051	100%
<b>Deductions from Revenue</b>								
Medicare	\$23,422,385	8	\$1,421,823	5	\$17,129,557	10	\$4,871,005	6
Medicaid	\$18,298,117	7	\$1,370,282	5	\$8,894,363	5	\$8,033,472	10
Other Government	\$356,506	<1	\$141,062	1	\$113,149	<1	\$102,295	<1
Third Party	\$2,032,174	1	\$193,099	1	\$1,269,941	1	\$569,134	1
Bad Debts	\$1,150,312	<1	\$120,485	<1	\$671,517	<1	\$358,310	<1
Charity	\$864,172	<1	\$256,923	1	\$596,998	<1	\$10,251	<1
Other Deductions	\$329,710	<1	\$134,035	1	(\$117,194)	<1	\$312,869	<1
<b>Reported Total Deductions</b>	\$46,660,470	17	\$3,637,709	14	\$28,765,425	17	\$14,257,336	17
<b>NET PATIENT REVENUE</b>	\$231,455,218		\$22,628,713		\$139,067,790		\$69,758,715	
<b>Donations</b>								
United Way	\$754,235	<1	\$2,400	<1	\$751,835	<1	\$0	0
Other Donations	\$695,994	<1	\$18,460	<1	\$674,059	<1	\$3,475	<1
<b>Total Donations</b>	\$1,450,229	1	\$20,860	<1	\$1,425,894	1	\$3,475	<1
<b>Other Home Health Revenue</b>	\$3,666,815	1	\$193,347	1	\$1,619,540	1	\$1,853,928	2
<b>TOTAL AGENCY REVENUE</b>	\$236,572,262		\$22,842,920		\$142,113,224		\$71,616,118	

Notes: Revenue and deductions are self-reported by agencies and based on their most recently completed fiscal year. Gross patient revenue is the total amount that an agency has billed for services to patients. Deductions from revenue are disallowances from Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance; bad debts; and charges to patients that have not been paid. Total deductions from revenue are subtracted from gross patient revenue to yield net patient revenue. Net patient revenue is the total revenue that agencies are paid by patients or their insurers. Donations and other revenues are added to net patient revenue to obtain total agency revenue.

- Self-reported gross patient revenue for 1996 was \$278.1 million, a decline of 3 percent from 1995.
- Gross patient revenue from Medicare accounted for 56 percent of total gross self-reported revenue in 1996, compared to 54 percent in 1995. In contrast, gross revenue from Medicaid decreased from 28 percent of total gross revenue in 1995 to 27 percent in 1996.
- Total agency self-reported revenue statewide amounted to nearly \$236.6 million in 1996, a 3 percent decrease from the \$244.5 million reported for 1995.

**Figure 9. Net Agency Revenue by Ownership of Agency**

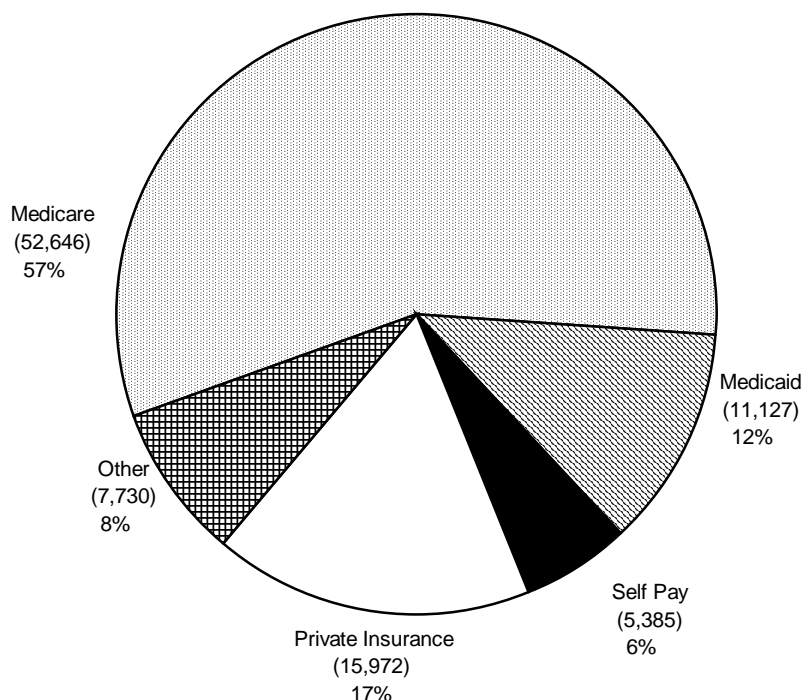
- For all home health agencies combined, total self-reported agency expenses exceeded total self-reported revenues by \$7.2 million in 1996.
- Total self-reported expenses exceeded total self-reported revenues by \$130,000 among all proprietary agencies, by \$5.1 million among all nonprofit agencies and by more than \$2.0 million among all governmental agencies.

**Table 14. Agency Revenues and Expenses by Ownership Type**

	State Total	Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Total Agency Revenue	\$236,572,262	\$22,842,920	\$142,113,224	\$71,616,118
Total Expenses	\$243,818,342	\$24,876,106	\$147,196,590	\$71,745,646
<b>Net Agency Revenue</b>	<b>-\$7,246,080</b>	<b>-\$2,033,186</b>	<b>-\$5,083,366</b>	<b>-\$129,528</b>

Note: Total agency revenue equals gross patient revenue, less deductions, plus any donations.

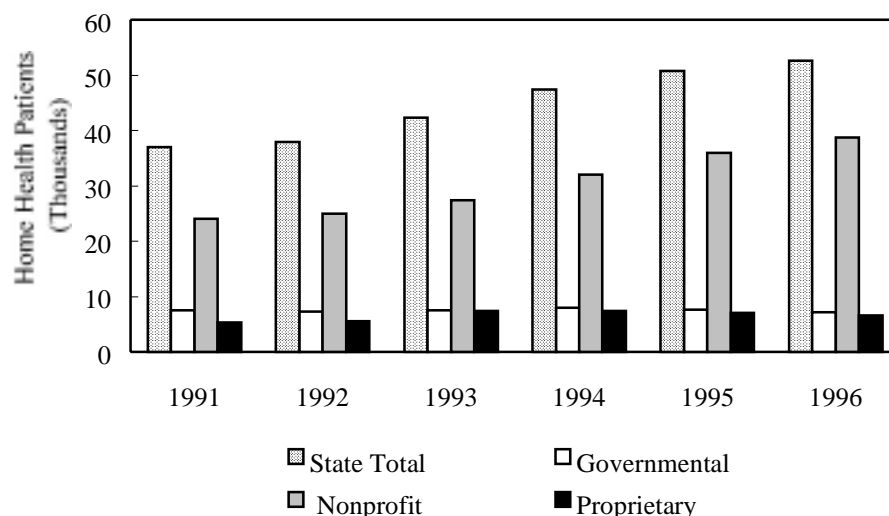
**Figure 10. Number and Percentage of Home Health Patients by Payment Sources**



Note: Patients may be counted in more than one payment source category.

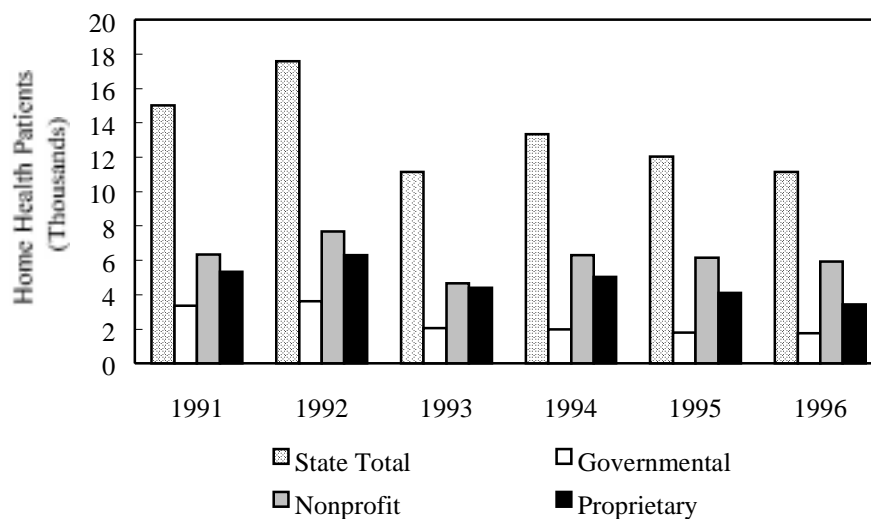
- In 1996, 57 percent of home health patients used Medicare as a payment source, 12 percent used Medicaid and 17 percent used private insurance.
- More than 52,000 home health patients used Medicare as a source of payment in 1996, an increase of 4 percent from 1995.
- About 900 fewer home health patients used Medicaid as a payment source in 1996 than in 1995, while 3,000 more home health patients used private insurance.

**Figure 11. Number of Home Health Patients Using Medicare as a Source of Payment by Agency Ownership, 1991-1996**



- Statewide, the number of home health patients using Medicare as a source of payment increased 40 percent from 1991 to 1996. The majority of these patients were served by nonprofit agencies.

**Figure 12. Number of Home Health Patients Using Medicaid as a Source of Payment by Agency Ownership, 1991-1996**



- Between 1991 and 1996, the number of home health patients using Medicaid as a payment source declined 27 percent statewide.